

In the end, I will always admire Henry for his basic belief that the law exists to protect the weak from the strong, and his willingness to fight for this principle.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today not only to honor Henry Hyde, a great man, but to recognize the impact he has made on our country. America no doubt will feel the loss of this man who so deeply committed himself to his country. I count myself lucky that I had the opportunity to serve with him. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Since its inception in 1957, the chamber has continued to play a key role in promoting economic prosperity in the greater Springfield region. Currently, the organization is composed of 280 businesses that are involved in a variety of local ventures, ranging from restaurants to government contracting. Drawing from a wealth of business knowledge and experience, member companies work in concert with local government officials and residents on behalf of the Springfield community.

The greater Springfield region is home to a vibrant economy where small and large businesses are forced to contend with a number of challenging economic issues. Recognizing these challenges, the chamber remains committed to aiding business as they navigate this dynamic economic landscape. President Stubbs has led a recent initiative to analyze the Base Realignment and Closure, BRAC, program and to assess its potential impact on local businesses. Another recent chamber study has focused on helping small businesses cope with the threat of pandemic flu.

Strong leadership and solid organization have contributed to the chamber's record of success. Under the guidance of current chamber president Vincent Stubbs and executive director Nancy-jo Manney, chamber membership and activities have continued to expand. Chamber executives and officers work alongside the organization's executive advisory council and the chamber board to identify areas of interest and chart the course of economic progress.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce on 50 years of success. They have become a strong organization committed to serving the interests of their members and their community. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the chamber members' past accomplishments and in wishing them the best of luck in the many years to come.

CONGRATULATING MR. RICE M. TILLEY, JR.

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Rice M. Tilley, Jr., practicing attorney with Haynes and Boone, LLP, as the recipient of the 2007 "Distinguished Citizens Award" from the Longhorn Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Tilley practices law in the Northern District Court of Texas, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit. He has over 40 years of experience in the fields of taxation, estate planning, and business formation, among others.

Mr. Tilley is very active in his community and holds positions on the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Fort Worth, and The University of North Texas' Board of Regents, as well as other organizations.

The leadership skills Mr. Tilley possesses are evident through not only his profession, but his charitable and community work as well.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Rice M. Tilley, Jr., on receiving this award, and I praise his dedication, commitment, and desire to help his community and country. I am honored to represent him in the 26th District of Texas.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING KARISSA HASTILOW FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Karissa Hastilow on placing second in the Manchester Umbr International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

#### A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND RUSH GENEVA RICHBURG

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brooklyn resident, Rev. Rush

Geneva Richburg. Reverend Richburg was born and raised in Summerton, SC, and is the 15th of 21 children. Her parents are the late Reverend Gussie Pearson and Mrs. Geneva Pearson.

Reverend Richburg, a member of the New Canaan Baptist for 18 years, was called to be an evangelist in 1990 and ordained as a reverend in 2004. She has served as president of the New Canaan's Christian Women's Fellowship; vice president of the Pastor's Aide Club Ministry; chaplain of the Sunday school department; and as a member of the block association.

Reverend Richburg was married to Frank Richburg, Sr., for 32 years prior to his death. Of that union, four children were born: Frank, Jr., Jeremiah, Theresa, and Harry. She also has 14 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I commend Rev. Rush Geneva Richburg for her contributions to her church and her community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful woman.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF LATE CONGRESSMAN AUGUSTUS FREEMAN "GUS" HAWKINS

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to recognize the passing of our former colleague and my fellow Angeleno, Augustus Freeman Hawkins.

I had the privilege of meeting Congressman Hawkins on several occasions during the years he served with my father, Congressman Edward R. Roybal, and I was struck by his warmth, intelligence, courage, and his dedication to serving the people of his Los Angeles congressional district.

Known affectionately as "Gus" to his colleagues and friends, Congressman Hawkins served his Los Angeles-area community, the State of California and the Nation with distinction. Dedicating his life to public service, Congressman Hawkins served for 27 years in the California Assembly and 28 years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

His entry into Congress in 1962 could not have come at a more auspicious time. With the Civil Rights Movement already coming to the forefront of our Nation's consciousness, Congressman Hawkins became a powerful advocate for civil rights for all Americans. As the first African-American from the western United States to serve in the House of Representatives, he keenly understood the importance of the minority voice in American politics, and he worked to magnify this voice by becoming a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. The CBC's current success can be traced back to Congressman Hawkins' vision and commitment to the organization in its formative years.

His achievements during his nearly three-decade tenure as a legislator are too numerous to recount. He was chairman of the powerful House Education and Labor Committee and the House Administration Committee, and he used his role as chairman to champion critical civil rights measures that expanded opportunities for millions of Americans.